

EPA Desk Statement

EPA is committed to working with the State of Missouri, as well as our federal partners with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Geological Survey to implement a final remedy and other actions to protect public health at the West Lake Landfill Superfund Site in Bridgeton, Mo. Our current priorities include:

Final Proposed Remedy

- EPA negotiated and finalized a modified Administrative Order on Consent Scope of Work modification with the Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) in December 2015.
- PRPs will deliver a Remedial Investigation Addendum and subsequent Final Feasibility Study for EPA's review and approval this fall.
- Once the FFS is approved, EPA will finalize our evaluation of the 2008 remedy decision and issue a draft final remedy for public review and comment.

Isolation Barrier Determination

- At the end of 2015, EPA announced its decision to require the installation of an isolation barrier, along with other engineering measures, to ensure radiologically impacted material remains separated from the subsurface smoldering event currently occurring in the adjacent Bridgeton Landfill.
- EPA Region 7 made this decision with technical support from our Office of Research and Development, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and in consultation with the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services throughout the fall and winter of 2015.
- Next Actions: EPA is negotiating the technical and legal details with the PRPs to perform this work pursuant to an enforceable schedule. The state of Missouri continues its actions with the owner of the Bridgeton Landfill to control the subsurface smoldering event and emissions.

Groundwater Investigations (new Operable Unit)

- EPA intends to investigate and address groundwater under a new Operable Unit (OU3). In late 2015 and January 2016, EPA had multiple discussions with the State of Missouri about future groundwater work. Next Actions: EPA, with technical support from the U.S. Geological Survey, is developing the scope of additional groundwater investigations to fully characterize the nature and extent of contamination related to the site.

Surface Fire Unilateral Administrative Order for Removal Action

- EPA issued a Unilateral Administrative Order (UAO) on December 9, 2015, for a time-critical removal action to mitigate surface fire risks.
- The UAO requires the PRPs to:
 - implement engineering measures to mitigate the risk of a surface fire within the boundary of the West Lake Landfill site coming in contact with radiologically impacted material (RIM) at or near the surface, and

- develop an incident management plan that will be used to coordinate with local emergency responders.
- Next Actions: Work at the site begins the week of Feb. 8-12 and is expected to be completed later in the spring of 2016. The PRPs provided EPA with a draft work plan and supporting documents for construction of a non-combustible cover (NCC) and framework for development of the OU1 IMP (THIS STANDS FOR WHAT?). EPA is currently reviewing these documents and anticipates work to begin on the NCC. A final report will be made available to the public.

Dialogue Framework

- EPA desires a more inclusive, transparent and fact-based dialogue with the community so we have contracted with neutral facilitators Cindy Cook and Dain Maddox of Adamant Accord. They have spoken with community members during this past week and continue to meet with them in-person in St. Louis this week. These facilitators have substantial experience in facilitating respectful and substantive dialogue regarding complex environmental issues. After meeting with community members, they will report their findings at a meeting in St. Louis at the end of February and then develop a framework for continued dialogue with this diverse group of community members and leaders and EPA Region 7 staff.